

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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R 290006Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 827

INFO USMISSION MTN GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD MX

SUBJECT: FONSEC RABASA COMMENTS ON TRADE REFORM ACT

REF: MEXICO 9082

1. DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION ON OCTOBER 23 IN WHICH CHARGE WAS SEEKING MEXICAN SUPPORT ON A UN MATTER (SEPTEL), FONSEC RABASA SAID THAT COOPERATION WAS A TWO-WAY STREET AND THAT "YOU AMERICANS HAVE TO TALK TO CAMPILLO SAINZ (SECRETARY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE) AND ME HERE OR IN WASHINGTON ABOUT THE PROBLEMS YOUR TRADE ACT IS CAUSING MEXICO." CHARGE REPLIED THAT AS FAR AS THE EMBASSY KNEW THE TRADE ACT WAS NOT GOING TO CREATE ALL THE DIFFICULTIES THEY FEARED.

2. RABASA DID NOT PURSUE THE SUBJECT AND AT ANOTHER ENCOUNTER THE FOLLOWING DAY DID NOT MENTION IT AGAIN. HIS REMARK PROBABLY WAS A NEGOTIATING PLOY BUT COULD FORESHADOW A REQUEST FOR NEGOTIATIONS.

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3. WE HAVE MADE CONSIDERABLE EFFORTS TO PERSUADE THE GOM OF

THE TRADE ACT'S MERITS AND RECENT BILATERAL ALKS IN WASHINGTON SHOULD HAVE SERVED TO CLARIFY THE MATTER, PARTICULARLY GSP. PRESS CRITICISM REPORTED REFTEL HAS ABATED IN RECENT DAYS AND SOME FAINTLY ENCOURAGING REMARKS ARE EVEN REPORTED IN THE MEXICAN PRESS TO HAVE BEEN MADE BY AMBASSADOR DE OLLOQUI.

4. WE SUSPECT THAT MEXICO DOES NOT MERELY SHARE THE FAMILIAR, GENUINE CONCERNS OF MANY OF OUR TRADING PARTNERS RE TITLES II AND III OF THE TRA, OR GSP PRODUCTS LIST QUESTION (TITLE V), BUT RATHER HARBORS UNREALISTIC HOPES FOR A SPECIAL TRADE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US WHICH WOULD GO BEYOND MFN OR GSP BENEFITS AND WOULD BE NON-RECIPROCAL IN NATURE. THEREFORE, WHILE WE PROBABLY HAVE TO RECEIVE RABASA AND/OR CAMPILLO SANIZ IF THEY WANTED TO COME TO WASINGTON, SUCH A HIGH-LEVEL VISIT WOULD LIKELY END IN DISAPPOINTMENT FOR THE MEXIANS. AN ALTERNATIVE MIGHT BE FOR AN ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL TO VISIT MEXICO, ALTHOUGH AMBASSADOR DENT WAS HERE RECENTLY. IN ANY CASE, HOWEVER, IT SEEMS TO US THAT FURTHER DISCUSSIONS SHOULD AWAIT PUBLIC-ATION OF GSP LIST.

BRANDIN

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